

<b>Kent PD</b>	<b>WASPC</b>	<b>Title</b>
<b>#3.80</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Limitations of Use of Deadly Force</b>

Officers are authorized to use deadly force against any person as necessary in self-defense or in the defense of another; when they have reason to believe they or another are in immediate danger of death or great bodily harm; or to capture or seize a dangerous suspect when there is probable cause to believe that the suspect has committed a crime involving the infliction or threatened infliction of great bodily harm; the suspect's escape poses an imminent threat to others; and there is no reasonably safe means of preventing the suspect's escape.

When officers are about to use deadly force, they will, when feasible, issue a verbal warning to the suspect.

This policy is equally applicable to juveniles and adult suspects. The Kent Police Department does not allow officers to discharge firearms at vehicles unless it is justified as an application of deadly force.

**Definitions**

Force: Physical action taken by an officer to assist that officer in controlling the actions/behaviors of another when such behaviors create a perceived risk of injury to any person, damage to the property of another, or to overcome physical resistance to a lawful order.

Great Bodily Harm: Injury which creates a probability of death or which causes significant permanent loss or impairment of the function of any body part or organ.

Deadly Force: The intentional application of force through the use of firearms or any other means reasonably likely to cause death or serious bodily injury. Justification for the use of deadly force must exist if an officer discharges a firearm.

Reasonable Belief: Facts, circumstance, or knowledge present to the officer sufficient to justify a thought or feeling.

Necessary: No reasonably safe and effective alternative to the use of force appeared to exist and that the amount of force used was reasonable to affect the lawful purpose intended.

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Kent PD	3.80
WASPC	N/A
Previous Kent PD Policy	1.3.2